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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
Public Health and Welfare Section

ANNEX TO WEEKLY BULLETIN

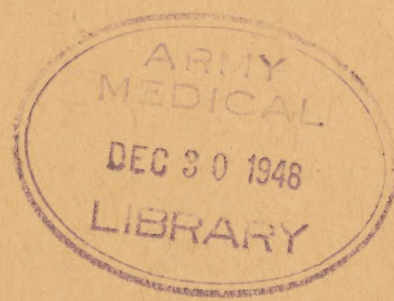
For Period

1 - 7 November

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Number 97

SECTION I - Preventive Medicine



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SECTION I

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE DIVISION

BCG Vaccinations

Attempts are being made to understand the local reactions which frequently occur following BCG vaccination. The reactions (small pustules or ulcers) do not appear to be related to batch of vaccine as different observers report widely varied results with the same batch. The answer probably lies in the technique of administration or in altered sensitivity. The reactions occur too late to be considered an ordinary pyogenic infection due to contamination. It might be related to dosage as 0.1 cc intracutaneously can only be measured practically by the eye.

Some observers believe that it is associated with sensitivity. They say that individuals who have marked reaction generally show strongly positive tuberculin tests afterwards. These same observers also suggest that the individuals may have a nearly positive test before vaccination.

Available figures on the frequency of reaction indicate that it can be observed in about 20% of vaccinees at the end of two weeks, 25% at the end of three weeks, 30% at the end of five weeks, and 1% at the end of twelve weeks.

For: Col L. J. Mallahan

CRAWFORD F. SAMS
Brigadier General, Medical Corps
Chief

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